

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CANBER 02180 090713Z

10  
ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 ERDA-05 ACDA-05 OMB-01 CIAE-00

H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 /062 W  
----- 049480

R 090615Z APR 75  
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5438  
INFO CNO  
CINCPAC  
AMCONSUL SYDNEY  
AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

S E C R E T CANBERRA 2180

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS1  
TAGS: MARR, PFOR, MNOC, AS  
SUBJECT: INCLUSION OF USS LONG BEACH IN CORAL SEA TASK GROUP  
VISIT TO AUSTRALIA

1. THE EMBASSY CANNOT GUARANTEE THAT THE GOA WILL APPROVE  
A VISIT BY THE LONG BEACH DURING THE CORAL SEA CELEBRA-  
TION BUT IS HOPEFUL THAT THE PROSPECT OF SUCH A VISIT WILL  
LEAD TO AN EARLY, FAVORABLE GOA DECISION ON NPW VISITS TO  
AUSTRALIA.

2. AT THE PRESENT TIME THE GOA IS WORKING ON THE ASSUMP-  
TION THAT THE USG WOULD LIKE TO INCLUDE THE LONG BEACH IN  
THE CORAL SEA TASK GROUP VISIT, AND A DECISION ON NPW VISITS  
IS NOW RECEIVING PRIORITY ATTENTION WITHIN THE GOA. WE ARE  
HOPEFUL FOR AN EARLY AND FAVORABLE DECISION ON THE GENERAL  
QUESTION OF NPW VISITS EVEN IF THE SPECIFIC VISIT OF THE  
LONG BEACH FOR THE CORAL SEA DAY CELEBRATIONS IS NOT APPROVED.  
HOWEVER, IF THE GOA IS NOTIFIED THAT THE PROPOSED VISIT BY  
THE LONG BEACH HAS BEEN CANCELLED A FINAL DECISION ON NPW

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PAGE 02 CANBER 02180 090713Z

VISITS COULD WELL BE DELAYED FOR SEVERAL MONTHS.

3. GIVEN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES AND THE FACT THAT NO NPWS ARE SCHEDULED TO BE DEPLOYED TO WESTPAC FROM JUNE 75 TO MAY 76 THE EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT THE LONG BEACH BE TENTATIVELY INCLUDED IN THE CORAL SEA GROUP. WE DO NOT WISH TO PRESSURE WHITLAM TO ACCEPT ANY PROPOSAL, BUT RATHER TO HAVE HIS GENUINE AGREEMENT AND SUPPORT ON WHATEVER ARRANGEMENTS ARE FINALLY SETTLED ON.

4. EMBASSY APPRECIATES THAT SITUATION IN INDOCHINA AND PRESENT DEPLOYMENT OF U.S. SHIPS HAVE PRIORITY OVER ANY VISIT TO AUSTRALIA. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE IT IS IMPORTANT TO CONTINUE TO TREAT NAVAL VISIT TO AUSTRALIA IN MAY AS SERIOUS MATTER FOR PLANNING PURPOSES IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN MOMENTUM ON AUSTRALIAN SIDE IN RESOLVING NPW ISSUE.

GREEN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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